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# **Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/412,754

Examiner

Thuy Pardo

Applicant(s)

VERNAU ET AL.

Art Unit

2175

## **-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendments filed on 6/1/2004 and 7/21/2004, Interview on 6/3/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 4, 7, 12, 17, 19, 21-31, 34, 35, 39, 43, 50-53, 56, 70, 73-75, 79-81, now renumbered 1-33.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 October 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## **Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

THUY N. PARDO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Applicant's Amendment After Final filed on September 01, 2004 in response to the Examiner's Advisory Office Action has been reviewed. Claims 31 and 39 have been amended and claim 65 has been canceled.
2. Claims 1, 4, 7, 12, 17, 19, 21-31, 34, 35, 39, 43, 50-53, 56, 65, 70, 73-75, and 79-81 are presented for examination.
3. Applicant's arguments filed on June 01, 2004 and Interview on June 03, 2004 have been fully considered and they are deemed to be persuasive.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 1, 4, 7, 12, 17, 19, 21-31, 34, 35, 39, 43, 50-53, 56, 65, 70, 73-75, and 79-81 are allowed over the prior art of record.

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination providing a classification scheme having a plurality of different subject matter categories, the database containing a classified vocabulary including a plurality of terms in each of the different subject matter categories with each term being classified in accordance with the classification scheme and the database also containing a classification data set comprising a plurality of group of terms with each group being associated with a specific different one of the object matter categories and each group including a plurality of terms exemplifying the associated category for facilitating

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disambiguation between different meanings of the same term as set forth in independent claims 1, 12, 31, 39, 75, and 81.

Dependent claims 4, 7, 17, 19, 21-30, 34, 35, 43, 50-53, 56, 70, 73, and 74 being further limiting to the independent claims 1, 12, 31, and 39, definite and enable by the Specification are also allowed.

Independent claims 79 and 80 have been allowed in the previous action.

The closest prior art, Wical US Patent No. 5,930,788 teaches a disambiguation processing to validate categories that have been preliminarily classified for themes of a document. The closest prior art fails to anticipate or render Applicant's limitations above obvious.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Pardo, whose telephone number is (703) 305-1091. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici, can be reached at (703) 305-3830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

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(703) 872-9306 (Official Communication)

and/or:

(703) 746-5616 *(Use this Fax#, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "Draft" communication. Examiner may request that a formal/amendment be faxed directly to then on occasions).*

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

**7. Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

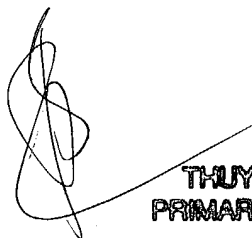
Or:

(703) 308-5359, (for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

September 15, 2004

  
**THUY N. PARDO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**